House Watch

A summary of today's House actions; published daily when the House is in session.



5/22/08

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 515 (Allen)

The bill would amend the Income Tax Act to eliminate the sunset on the Military Family Relief Fund income tax check-off. The check-off currently applies to tax years beginning after December 31, 2003, and before January 1, 2008. Under the bill, the check-off would continue indefinitely.

- SB 515 advanced to 3rd Reading
- SB 515 was passed [RC 434: 107 yes, 0 no]

HB 5870 (Bieda)

Public Act 105 of 2003 amended the General Property Tax Act to require the audit of principal residence exemptions. This is the exemption homeowners can claim from local school operating taxes for owner-occupied principal residences. Public Act 105 allows a county to elect to audit homestead exemptions in all local tax collecting units within the county. The Department of Treasury must audit exemptions in counties that do not elect to conduct the audits. The decision to audit exemptions must be made by the county treasurer or by the county equalization director with the concurrence of the county board of commissioners. The initial election to audit exemptions must require an audit period of two years. Subsequent elections to audit must be made every two years and require two annual audit periods. An election must be made by submission of an election-to-audit form (as prescribed by the department) to the assessor of each local tax collecting unit in the county and to the Department of Treasury by October 1 in the year in which an election is made. (A county that makes this election retains a larger portion of interest collected on unpaid taxes from denials of exemptions improperly claimed.) House Bill 5870 would instead require, beginning in 2009, that a county's election to audit exemptions be made every five years and require five annual audit periods. (MCL 211.7cc) The bill also would make the deadline for submitting an election-to-audit form April 1 preceding the October 1 in the year in which an election is made.

- Committee substitute H-1 was not adopted
- Corriveau substitute H-2 adopted
- HB 5870 advanced to 3rd Reading
- HB 5870 was passed [RC 435: 107 yes, 0 no]
- IE was ordered

SB 1308 (Gilbert)

The bill (S-1) would amend Part 121 (Liquid Industrial Wastes) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to provide that the following would not be liquid industrial waste, when managed as specified:

- -- An off-specification fuel, including a gasoline blendstock, that was generated in a pipeline as the interface material from the mixture of two adjacent fuel products and that would be processed, by blending or distillation or other refining, to produce a fuel product or fuel products.
- -- An off-specification fuel, including a gasoline blendstock, that resulted from the commingling of off-specification fuel products or from phase separation in a gasoline and alcohol blend and that would be processed, by distillation or other refining, to produce fuel products.
- -- An off-specification fuel product transported directly to a distillation or refining facility to produce a fuel product or fuel products regulated under 40 CFR Part 80 (which regulates fuels and fuel additives).
 - SB 1308 advanced to 3rd Reading
 - SB 1308 was passed [RC 436: 107 yes, 0 no]
 - IE was ordered

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

HR 372 (Brown)

A resolution to memorialize the Congress of the United States to pass, and President Bush to sign, the Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act.

• HR 372 was adopted [RC 432: 106 yes, 0 no]

HCR 84 (Valentine)

A concurrent resolution to memorialize the Congress of the United States to pass, and President Bush to sign, the Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act.

• HCR 84 was adopted [RC 433: 107 yes, 0 no]